

Grade Descriptors for Religious Studies

Years 7 -11

Grades 8 - 9	
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to explain faith in the modern world/pluralistic society. • Have knowledge of faith in the modern world/pluralistic society. • Can use detailed knowledge and thorough understanding of religion to describe. • Can explain how differences in beliefs can lead to differences of religious response.
Understanding/application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to explain and analyse the significance and impact of beliefs, practices, sources, ways of life and form of expressing meaning. • Be able to explain evolving religious truths and adaptations/interpretations in religion showing good development and/or analysis. • Be able to explain evolving religious truths and adaptation/interpretations in religion.
Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates originality. • Be able to give alternative interpretations of controversial/ultimate questions/moral issues. • Draw a wide range of relevant evidence and interpretations of religious teachings/sources. • Evaluate different points of view and reach evidenced judgements on beliefs and issues studied.
Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can use religious vocabulary throughout work and confident when using new language. • Can adapt vocabulary to take into account religious similarity and difference. • Evidence of highly developed and confident use of religious terms and SPaG.

Grades 6-7

Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give informed insight into religion. • Demonstrates sound knowledge. • Be able to describe the difference between cultural/religious practises.
Understanding/application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to account for religious diversity. • Be able to relate to different contexts. • Be able to explain the impact of culture on religious expression. • Be able to explain the impact of beliefs, teachings, sources and practices on a believer. • Be able to explain the impact of religion on a believer.
Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make coherent evidence based on judgement showing reasonable consideration of two views with reference to religion. • Can use reasoned arguments to respond to religious beliefs and moral issues. • Make evidence based judgements showing reasoned consideration of two views with reference to religion.
Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is evidence of highly developed use of religious terms and SPaG. • Can use religious terminology consistently and correctly. • Evidence of new vocabulary being used.

Grade 5

Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand context (wider and historical). • Subject specific vocabulary used consistently and accurately to enhance knowledge. • Demonstrates good knowledge of the topic/religion(s) being studied.
Understanding/application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain differences within and between religion using relevant examples. • Can apply knowledge in context.
Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give reasoned consideration of more than one view with reference to religion. • Begin reaching own conclusion based on evidence based judgements on religion/moral issues/ultimate questions. • Examine similarities and differences in religion and link this to personal opinion.
Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent and accurate use of SPaG. • Good use of subject specific vocabulary used consistently and accurately. • Evidence of new religious vocabulary being used in work.

Grades 3-4

<p>Knowledge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe accurately and in detail beliefs and practices. • Identify parallels and similarities between religions. • Describe in detail religious beliefs and practices. • Describe some varieties of expression. • Use subject specific vocabulary consistently and accurately. • Show awareness of the meaning and importance of the beliefs and practices of the religions being studied.
<p>Understanding/application</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe differences within and between religions using examples. • Apply specific religious teachings and sources to personal decision making. • Use religious sources/teachings. • Describe impact of religion to the lives of the believers.
<p>Evaluation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give a well-argued response giving account of others' views. • Give a well argued opinion based on one point of view, often reflecting on their own beliefs.
<p>Literacy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can use some religious language confidently and fluently. • Growing awareness of context and begin to explain why some religious language is relevant in one context/belief system and not in another e.g. cremation. • Mostly accurate and consistent use of SPaG.

Grades 1-2

Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe differences between religions with examples. • Use subject specific vocabulary. • Describe briefly beliefs and practices. • Identify and describe religious symbols.
Understanding/application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain how/why. • Use religious teachings in a generic way. • Be able to explain symbolism in religious language/ritual/stories. • Formulate questions of meaning and purpose. • Suggest why/how? • Identify ultimate questions. • Respond to matters on faith and religion based on knowledge.
Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support own opinion. • Be able to relate ideas to their own/others lives. • Be able to outline a basic argument. • Respond sensitively. • Recognise that people have their own views.
Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use some religious language and subject specific vocabulary. • Begin to assimilate new words to current understanding. • Some relevant religious teachings may be identified. • Can use simple language and SPaG.

Foundation Grade

Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remember/recall accurately religious stories/festivals/rituals. • Retell stories/rituals accurately. • Recognise features of religious stories/festivals/rituals. • Recognise religious ideas/things.
Understanding/application	N/A
Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State opinion/make choices. • Begin to make judgements based on feelings and experience.
Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May assimilate new words to current understanding. • May remember some religious vocabulary.